MAR 17 700 30 STANTE TEADERS

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants :

Ryuji ISHIGURO et al.

Serial No. :

09/872,509

Filed

June 1, 2001

For

ENCIPHERING APPARATUS AND METHOD, DECIPHERING APPARATUS AND METHOD AS WELL AS INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD UTILIZING A KEY FOR ENCIPHERING AND DECIPHERING THAT IS MODIFIED

DURING ENCIPHERING AND DECIPHERING

Art Unit :

2131

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 1, 20

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

March // , 2003 Date of Signature RECEIVED

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Technology Center 2100

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the

attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued in the corresponding European application on February 19, 2003. So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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